

# **FICTITIOUS DOMAIN NAME METHOD, SYSTEM, PRODUCT, AND APPARATUS**

## **Abstract of Disclosure**

When a request having an identifier including a domain name is received, it is determined whether the domain name is fictitious. When the identifier includes a fictitious domain name (FDN), a network resource is requested from at least a portion of the identifier. FDN can include the step of determining that the identifier includes a domain name that is not a valid domain name (VDN) or determining that the identifier includes a domain name having at least one domain level alias or determining whether the highest level domain (HLD) of the FDN is resolvable. HLD resolvability can include the step of comparing the HLD to a list of resolvable top level domains (TLDs) without processing a DNS query, comparing the HLD before processing a DNS query, comparing the HLD while processing a DNS query, and comparing the HLD after processing a DNS query. HLD can be compared before and/or after processing the DNS query by performing at least a portion of the step of comparing the HLD to the list of TLDs with a search function such as an autosearch. HLD can be compared during the DNS query by comparing the HLD to the list of TLDs in one of a root zone file and zone file cache. HLD that is determined resolvable is a TLD and the HLD that is determined not resolvable is a top level domain alias (TLDA). A valid domain name (VDN) having a resolvable TLD is a real domain name (RDN).

## Figures